

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the received user's voice directed back to the user is directed back through vibration transmitted directly into the skull bone by physical attachment of the bone conduction hearing apparatus to the skull bone.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 31, further comprising:
adjusting frequency characteristics of the bone conducting hearing ~~aid~~ apparatus.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 31, further comprising:
further delaying directing back to the user the received user's voice.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 31, further comprising:
suppressing sound from directions other than a forward direction in front of the user.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, further comprising:
adjusting the further delay.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 31, further comprising:
shifting a frequency of the received voice of the user directed back to the user.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 31, further comprising:

transmitting to each cochlea of the user sound information having different frequency characteristics.

21-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method of treating stuttering, comprising:

fitting a bone conducting hearing apparatus to a user having a stuttering problem but no substantial hearing impairment;

receiving, with a microphone of the bone conducting hearing apparatus, sound including the user's voice; and

directing the received user's voice back to the user through the bone conducting hearing apparatus ~~in order to treat the stuttering problem, including:~~

directing the received user's voice to a first cochlea and a second cochlea of the user, such that the received user's voice directed back to the user is received by the first cochlea before it is received by the second cochlea.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising amplifying the received user's voice more than the surrounding sound and directing the amplified received user's voice back to the user.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the first cochlea and the second cochlea ~~user has a first cochlea and a second cochlea that~~ are both stimulated by the sound including the voice of the user through natural hearing.

36. (Previously Presented) A method of treating stuttering, comprising:
fitting a bone conducting hearing apparatus to a user having a stuttering problem but no substantial hearing impairment;
receiving, with a microphone of the bone conducting hearing apparatus, sound including a voice of the user; and
directing the received user's voice back to the user through the bone conducting hearing apparatus to treat the stuttering problem so that a first cochlea and a second cochlea of the user are stimulated by the bone conducting hearing apparatus, wherein there is a delay in stimulating the first cochlea relative to the second cochlea.
37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein both the first cochlea and the second cochlea are also stimulated by the sound including the voice of the user through natural hearing.
38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein any delay in stimulating the first cochlea or the second cochlea relative to the stimulation of the first cochlea or the second cochlea, respectively, through natural hearing, is due solely to the bone conducting device.
39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising amplifying the received user's voice more than the surrounding sound and directing the amplified received user's voice back to the user to treat the stuttering problem.
40. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, wherein the received user's voice directed back to the user is directed back through vibration transmitted directly into the skull bone by physical attachment of the bone conduction hearing apparatus to the skull bone.
41. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, further comprising:
adjusting frequency characteristics of the bone conducting hearing apparatus.

42. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, further comprising:

further delaying directing back to the user the received user's voice.

43. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, further comprising:

shifting a frequency of the received voice of the user directed back to the user.